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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Patent No. 6,276,549 :  
Issue Date: August 21, 2001 :  
Application No. 09/009,327 : ON PETITION  
Filed: January 20, 1998 :  
Attorney Docket No. 1320.1015/JD :

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed November 5, 2010, to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is GRANTED.

This patent expired on August 21, 2009 for failure to pay the 7.5 year maintenance fee. Since this petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3205.

/ALESIA M. BROWN/

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